

DISTRICT COURT (FIRST DISTRICT : CACHE COUNTY) [1686]

PROBATE INDEX, 1864-1966

1 volume

2 microfilm reels

DESCRIPTION: The probate index was created by the county clerk to record the names and assigned case numbers of parties in probate actions in Cache County, and to facilitate clerical management of and access to these files.

The Index to Probate Matters, which appears to be a compilation of three earlier volumes (A, B, and C), indexes the parties involved in probate cases 1-6748, spanning 6 June 1864 to 13 March 1966. Each page includes five columns for: file number, surname, given name, nature of matter, and date filed. File numbers are sometimes followed by the letters A, B, or C (designating an earlier index volume). Notations under nature of matter include: deceased, termination of estate, minor, insane, incompetent, feeble-minded, inquest, adoption, tubercular, civil (petition for change of name, termination of joint tenancy, application for town site deed, dissolution), incorrigible, and habeas corpus. Entries are typewritten.

Volume B records the name of the parties in cases 1-3243, spanning 6 June 1864 to 2 January 1935. Each page includes three columns for: surname or corporate name, given/Christian name, and estate number. Notations sometimes appear following the given name, indicating an alias or the type of case (insane, adoption, guardianship, name change, inquest, etc.). Entries are handwritten both in ink and pencil.

ARRANGEMENT: Index entries for both the Index to Probate Matters and Volume B are roughly alphabetical by initial letter(s) of the surname or corporate name.

RESEARCH NOTE: Evidently numbers began to be assigned to Cache County probate

cases approximately 1914. Cases filed in the district court since statehood as well as some originally filed with the Cache County Probate Court (1860-1896) presumably were assigned numbers according to the date of filing. These cases have logical numbers at the beginning of the numbering scheme, however, over 60 territorial (1864–1895) and early statehood (1899-1908) cases were initially overlooked. Compilers of the index reserved a block of case numbers for these cases. As batches were discovered and incorporated into the system, case numbers 1226-1287 were assigned. Case numbers 1288-1473 were never assigned.

The Hall & McChesney Permaflex index system was used to compile the Index to Probate Matters. The index is divided into five sections (Aa-Cy, Da-Gu, Ha-Lz, Ma-Ry, and Sa-Z). A key table listing common surnames appears at the beginning of each section. If the surname is not listed in full, printed instructions direct researchers to look on the page indicated by the

In volume B, there are no entries under "U." There are "Y" entries but no "X" entries in the "X-Y" section.

RELATED RECORDS: The PROBATE CASE FILES (series 1532), a collection of all documents and actions pertaining to the probate of wills following death which have been filed with the court clerk, are indexed by the PROBATE INDEX. Case numbers provided in the INDEX also enable researchers to make use of the PROBATE REGISTER OF ACTIONS (series 22724) to locate pertinent entries in the PROBATE MINUTE BOOKS (series 22905). Copies of wills, bonds, letters testamentary, and related documents are transcribed in PROBATE RECORD BOOKS (series 767).

CUSTODY HISTORY: The Cache County Clerk was constitutionally designated as ex-officio clerk of First District Court in and for Cache County until 1989 when the state assumed responsibility for the district court. The county clerk maintained custody of volume B until it was transferred to the archives in February 2000.

PROCESSING NOTE: The Utah Judicial Council has determined that indexes are permanent records. Microfilming of the Index to Probate Actions was done by the Genealogical Society of Utah in April 1966. Microfilming of volume B was done by the Utah State Archives in March 2000. Archival processing of the probate index was completed in May 2000 by W. Glen Fairclough, Jr.

PREFERRED CITATION: Cite the Utah State Archives and Records Service, the creating agency name, the series title, and the series number.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Box	Description
1	None	1-6748 [Vols. A-C, June 6, 1864-15 March 1966]
2	1	1-3243 [Vol. B, June 6, 1864- 2 January 1935]